

## Lesson Plan

### Cool Countries

**Series:** Countries

**Level:** Navigator

### Objective

To have students create a brochure that describes key details about a country.

### Supplies

- One or more books in the Countries series
- Whiteboard
- Paper
- Pencils, pens, colored pencils, or markers

### Before the Activity

Write the following bullet points on the whiteboard:

- History
- Nature
- Culture
- Landmarks

### Activity

Each book in the Countries series gives an overview of a different nation. It tells about important events from the country's past; describes the climate and regions; tells about the people, plants, and animals that live there; and highlights some famous cities and landmarks. Have each student choose one country they'd like to learn about. Students should read the book about this country. As they read, students should take notes. They should look for facts about the four topics listed on the whiteboard.

Next, show students how to fold a paper into thirds to create a brochure. Students should write the name of their book on the front cover of the brochure. Then, they should fill the inside panels with details about the country. They should use the four categories from the whiteboard, using one panel to give details about each topic. For example, a brochure about France might include a timeline of the country's leaders in the History panel. Its Nature panel might have a description of the different regions. The Culture panel might describe the various people groups who live in France, and the Landmarks panel might include a description of the Louvre. Students can also decorate their brochures with colors and illustrations that match the country they are describing.

After every brochure is complete, have students pair up with a person who chose a different country. Then, have each student present their brochure to their partner.

### **Evaluation**

Collect each student's brochure at the end of class and use the following system to give each student up to 10 points:

- 1 point for following the four-panel brochure format
- 1 point for each panel's information that is accurate
- 1 point for each panel's information that is a good fit for the topic
- 1 point for using good spelling and grammar

### **Standards**

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 4 (RI 4.1), and the National Council for the Social Studies standards 1, 2, and 3.